

Commercial and Industrial Buildings,
Maizewood Insulation Company Factory
275 Salina Street
Dubuque
Dubuque County
Iowa

HABS No. IA-160-C

HABS
IOWA,
31-DUBU,
13-C-

PHOTOGRAPHS
HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
Rocky Mountain Regional Office
P.O. Box 25287
Denver Colorado 80225

Maizewood Insulation Company Factory

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Site Location: 275 Salina Street
Dubuque, Dubuque County, Iowa
DOT designation: Resource Site No. 1A.15
Cadastral grid : SE1/4 SE1/4 S25 T89N R3E
USGS quadrangle: Dubuque South Iowa 7.5'
UTM coordinates: 15.692180.4706440
Lot description: Lot 4 of Block B of Industrial
Subdivision, East 50' of Lot 1
of Block 8, East 50' of Lot 2
of Block B, Lot 3 of Block 8,
East 50' of Lot 1 of Block C,
Lot 4 of Block C, Lot 1 of Block
C-3, Lot 4 of Block C.

Present Owner: M and S Leasing Company
Present Usage: vacant
Present Condition : poor/fair

Overall Dimensions: (see plan)
Orientation : northeast
Architectural
Description : Plan type: rectangular: 1-3 stories
Structure: reinforced concrete frame.
Ext. walls: reinforced concrete with concrete block infill.
Roofs : flat composition roofs with concrete parapet
walls.
Chimneys : assortment of steel cylindrical chimneys.
Windows : multi-light steel industrial sash with loose
lintels and continuous concrete sills.
Openings : variety of entrance and sectional loading
doors.
Details : none.

Construction Date : 1928; 1933; 1935; 1955; 1962.

Architecture Style: Industrial functional

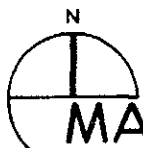
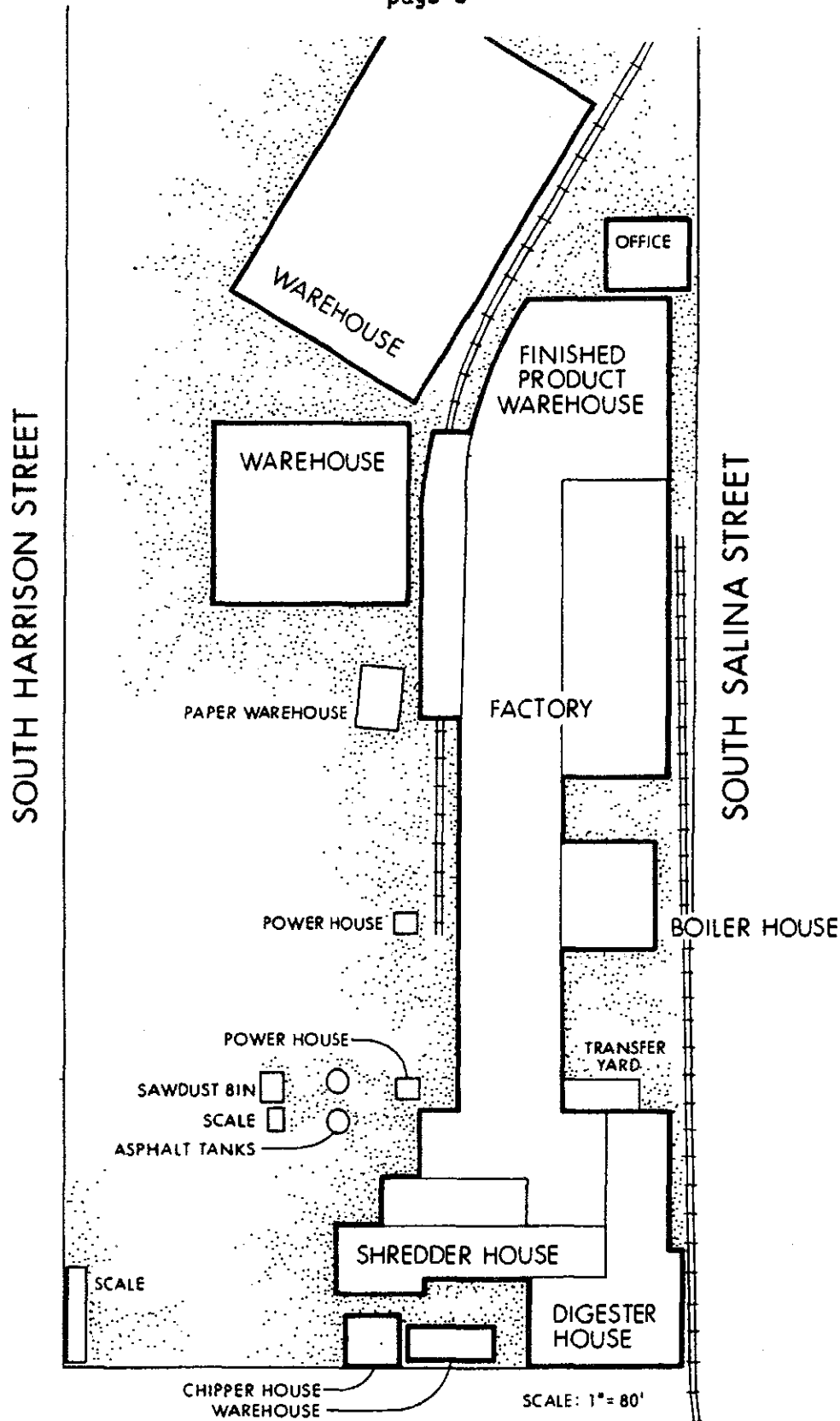
Physical History : In the late 1920s and 1930s, the Maizewood Insulation Company constructed this extensive factory for the reported cost of \$85,000 in a newly developed industrial park in south Dubuque. Using a chemical/mechanical process developed by a Iowa State University professor, the plant recycled corn stocks into insulating boards for building construction. The company first built the digester building, the southernmost structure at the corner of Salina and Camp streets, in 1928. The three-story concrete building housed the firm's business offices and four large rotary digesters used to reduce the cornstalks into malleable pulp. In 1933 Maizewood built a long, two-story building onto the north side of the digester house. This was used to form and dry the wall boards. A single-story boiler house adjoined this wing on the east. A finished

products warehouse was built onto the north end of the dryer building in 1935, essentially completing the complex. Other additions and two large, detached warehouses were subsequently built in the 1950s and 1960s. Now owned by the Celotex Corporation, the plant stands vacant and deteriorating.

Significance: The Maizewood Insulation Company Factory is one of the more recent plants built in Dubuque's industrial district to service the building trades. The buildings reflect the prevailing architecture and technology of their time of construction.

References: Dubuque City Directories: 1909 - 1970.
Sanborn Insurance Maps: 1909, 1972.
Dubuque County Assessment Record: 3-25-1-1.
Esther Cleveland Chi, ed., *Another Flavor of Dubuque*
(Dubuque: Gorsuch Grace Printing, 1983), page 131.
Iowa Department of Transportation, "Draft Environmental
Impact Statement - Cultural Resources Assessment."
Dubuque Telegraph-Herald: 1 May 1927; 30 April 1930.

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MAIZEWOOD INSULATION COMPANY FACTORY

275 SALINA STREET • DUBUQUE • IOWA